

Franklin County WebGIS Training A Natural Setting for Opportunity

Links and Contact Information

Quick search page: http://arcgis.webgis.net/va/Franklin/

Main map page: http://arcgis.webgis.net/va/Franklin/default.asp

WebGIS online help: http://arcgis.webgis.net/WebGisCommon/help/help2.html

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Using the Quick Search Page

The Quick Search page is a great way to search for a particular property before entering the map. You can search by:

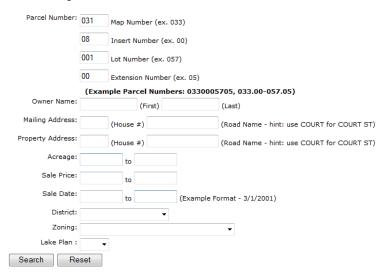
- o **Parcel number:** The search box automatically changes what you entered to the correct number of digits. You must always include a Map Number insert, lot, and extension numbers are optional.
- Name: You may search by Last Name or by both Last Name and First Name but not by First Name only.
- Mailing address: You may search by road name alone or road name and house number but not by house number alone.
 Road names can be typed in uppercase or lowercase.
- Property address: You may search by road name, house number, or both. Road names can be typed in uppercase or lowercase.
- Acreage: You may type in a minimum or maximum acreage threshold, or both. You may use decimal places.
- o Sale price: You may search by a minimum or maximum or both and you can use or omit a dollar sign.
- Sale date: You must include the month, day, and year. Months and days can be single or double digits; years can be two or four digits. You can search for everything before one date, everything after a date, or everything between two dates.
- o **District, Zoning, and Lake Plan:** Select from drop down menu.
- Subdivision Quick View. Zooms you to a map view of a subdivision selected from the drop down menu. The subdivision boundary is outlined in yellow.

Example 1. Return all agriculturally zoned parcels of greater than five acres sold in 2011.

Real Estate Quicksearch:

Parcel Number:	Map Number (ex. 033)			
	Insert Number (ex. 00)			
	Lot Number (ex. 057)			
	Extension Number (ex. 05)			
	(Example Parcel Numbers: 0330005705, 033.00-057.05)			
Owner Name:	(First)			(Last)
Mailing Address:	(House #)			(Road Name - hint: use COURT for COURT ST)
Property Address:	(House #)			(Road Name - hint: use COURT for COURT ST)
Acreage:	50	to		
Sale Price:		to		
Sale Date:	1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011 (Examp		(Example Fo	ormat - 3/1/2001)
District:		•		
Zoning:	A1 - Agriculture			■ ▼
Lake Plan :	•			
Search Reset				

Real Estate Quicksearch:



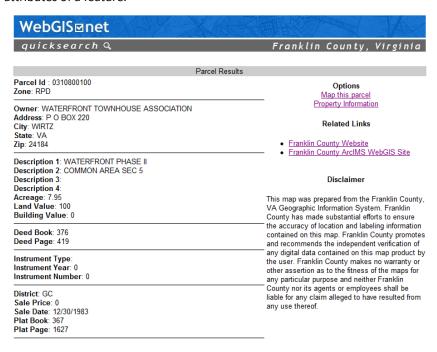
Tip: If your search is not returning any results, check that you've cleared out all the fields except the ones you're searching for.

Results:

The results page shows a list and some of the attributes of the returned features.



o To see details of a returned feature, click on its link on the left side of the screen. Then a new screen opens and displays the attributes of a feature.



o For full detailed attributes, click on the "Property Information" link on the right side of the screen. The full property information including buildings and improvements opens in a new tab.

Franklin Co. Property Information

Tax Map# 0310800100

Owner: Waterfront Townhouse Association Assessment Values:

Owners Address: P O Box 220 Building: \$0

Wirtz, Va 24184 Land: \$100 Total: \$100

Legal Desc.: Waterfront Phase li
Common Area Sec 5

Common Area Sec 5

Total Acres: 7.950

Land Use Value: \$0

Magisterial District: Gills Creek

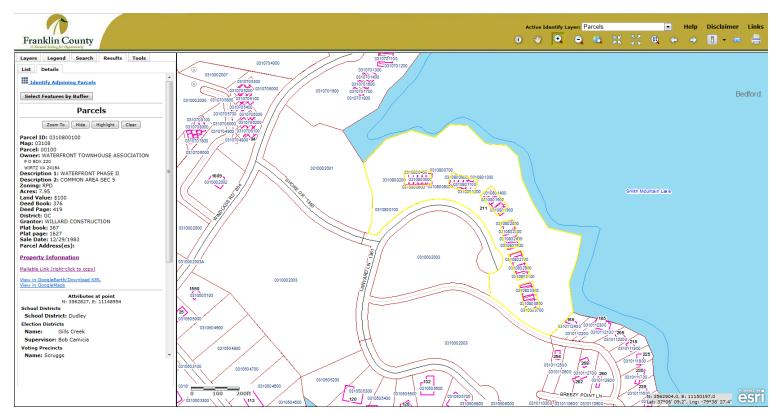
Zoning: RPD - Residential Planned Unit Development

Class Code: OTHER

Property Address:

DISCLAIMER: While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented, Franklin County is not responsible for the accuracy of the content contained herein and will not be liable for its mis-use or any decisions based on this report's contents.

o To see the map of the parcel, click "Map this parcel" on the right side of the screen *in the search results window*. Then the web map opens in a new tab and shows the property highlighted in yellow and the attributes on the side. You still have the option of seeing the full property information with the link on the left side of the screen.



Tip: To return to the quick search page from the map window, click "Links" in the upper right hand corner, then "Quick Search."

Displaying Layers in the Online Map

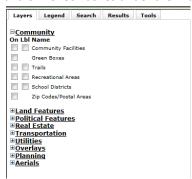
In general about layers ... Geographic Information Systems data is stored in files of points, lines, and polygons, or in raster (pixilated) format. Each file is displayed in the map as a "layer," meaning it is like a sheet of paper that is displayed either on top of or underneath other layers. The order the layers are listed in the table of contents, from top to bottom, is the same order they are displayed on the map. So if a layer is listed at the top of the list of layers, it is displayed over top of the layers underneath it.

Working with the layers in the map

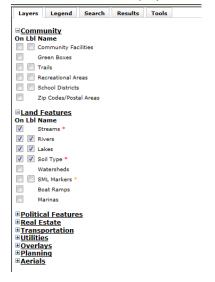
- Start by selecting the layers tab in the upper left corner of the screen.
- o Layers are broken into general categories.



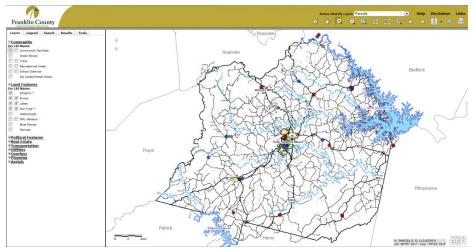
 To see the layers contained in each category, click the plus sign next to the category's name. The plus sign becomes a dash, and the individual layers are displayed with check boxes next to them. Check boxes under the "On" column turn layers on and off. Check boxes under the "Lbl" column turn labels on and off.



- Note that layers are displayed in the order they are listed in the pane on the side of the screen. For example, aerials are at the bottom of the list. So if a layer higher up than aerials is checked, it is displayed on top of the aerial images in the map.
- Some layers are visible at all scales of the map whether you're zoomed out to see the whole county or zoomed in to an individual property. Other layers are only visible at certain scales. *If there is an asterisk next to a layer, then either the layer or its labels cannot be viewed at the current scale.* Red asterisks mean layers can't be displayed, orange asterisks mean labels can't be displayed.



• Try turning on the Community Facilities layer. To see all of the facilities, click the "Full Extent" button in the upper right hand corner.



o Try zooming in until you can see the soils layer. The soil map appears when you are zoomed in close enough.



Now try turning on the aerial imagery for 2011.



- There is no asterisk next to the layer, but it doesn't appear on the map. That's because the soil map covers the whole area of the map, and since it's listed above the aerials in the list of layers, it covers the aerial imagery.
- o To see the aerial imagery, we have to uncheck the soils layer.



Zooming in and out, panning, and going to the next or previous view

The mouse wheel can be used to zoom in and out. Turning it toward the screen zooms in. Turning it away from the screen zooms out.

The zoom in by window tool lets you select an area to display by dragging a rectangle with your mouse. This is a great way to make sure that certain features you need to see are included in the window. *Click the tool with your mouse.* Then move your mouse pointer into the map. Hold down the left mouse button to draw the rectangle.

The zoom out by window tool zooms out based on the rectangle you draw with the mouse. If you draw a very small rectangle, the screen zooms out very far. If you draw a big rectangle that's almost the size of the current view, the screen only zooms out a little bit.

There are also fixed zoom buttons, which zoom in and out by set amounts. These are good for gradual, controlled zooming in or out based on where the screen is already centered. Just press the buttons to use them.

There's also the option to specify a fixed scale. Using this button you can set the extent boundaries of the view, e.g. feet north, south, east, or west in a projected coordinate system. You can also set the scale numerically, e.g. 1:24,000.



The forward and back buttons function like the forward and back buttons on the internet, only they show the next and most recent extents you viewed on the map. These can be a quick way to go from one view to another. (They're also a nice way to go back to the previous extent if you mess up and accidentally zoom in or out too far).

The pan button lets you drag the map as though you were literally grabbing it and sliding along a table in front of you. It's a good way to move the view so you can see what isn't currently in your view window. Select the pan tool by clicking it with your mouse. Then move the mouse pointer into the map window. Click and hold the left button of the mouse, then move your mouse in the direction you want to move the map.



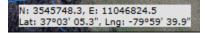
The full extent button zooms you back to seeing the entire county. Just click the button to zoom.

More Map Display Options

• You can turn the scale bar, overview map, and coordinates locator on and off using the dropdown menu at the top of the screen.



• The coordinates display the exact location of the cursor as it moves throughout the map both in map coordinates (feet north and east) and geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes, and seconds).



The Identify Tool

• Select the layer you want to identify in the "Active Identify Layer" at the top of the screen. For example, buildings.



• Then select the identify tool. Click on the feature you want to identify. The map will zoom to the feature you have selected and highlight it in yellow. The feature's information should appear over to the left.



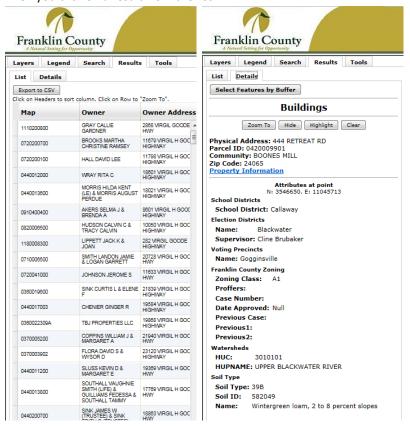
Searching

PARCELS

• Let's say you're searching for features with certain criteria. For example, you want to find all parcels with a mailing address along Virgil Goode Highway. Type "Goode" into the mailing address search box.



 Lots of results appear in the Results pane. Here again you have the option to export the list to a Comma Separated Value file (CSV) which will open in Microsoft Excel. You can see specifics for each result in the details pane, which is highlighted when you click on a result from the list.



• In the details pane you can also zoom to the feature you've selected, highlight it, hide it, or clear its selection from your list.

ADDRESSES AND STREET NAMES

• If you're searching by a street name, use the "Street Name Search" option. Use a house number and a street name if you're using the "Address Search" option. You can also search for just a number, but you can't use the "Address Search" option to search just for a street name.

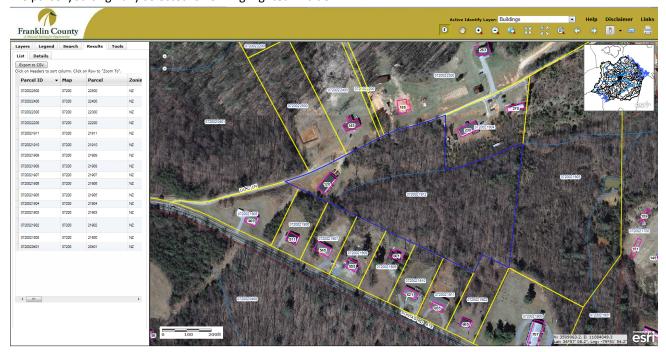


IDENTIFYING ADJOINING PARCELS

• When your search has returned a parcel, you have the option to highlight and display information for the parcels around it. You can do so using the "Identify Adjoining Parcels" button at the top of the Details tab.



Now the parcels adjacent to the one originally selected appear in the results list and are highlighted in yellow on the map.
 The parcel you originally selected is now highlighted in blue.



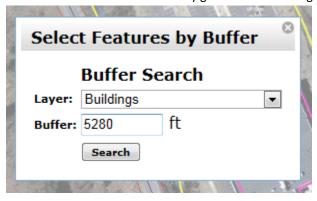
To display all of these adjoining parcels in one map view, use the zoom tools to adjust the map extent.

Selecting Features with a Buffer

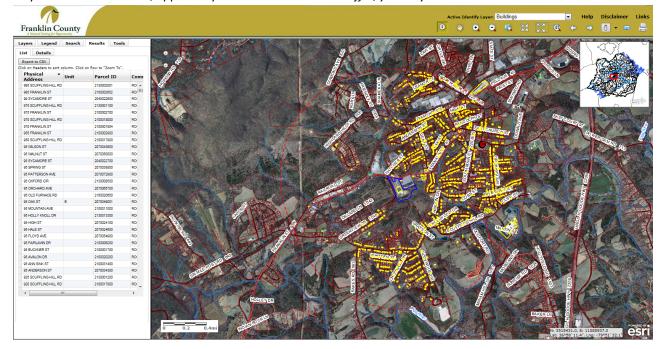
- A "Buffer" is a shape created by drawing fixed distances from every point in a feature. A buffer of a point is the circle around the point with a specified radius. A buffer around a polygon is another polygon, larger than the original one by a fixed distance.
- Choose the "Select Features by Buffer" button under the "Details" tab.



• In the box that opens, choose the layer you want to select from and a search distance. For example, I could select buildings within a mile of the Franklin County government building.

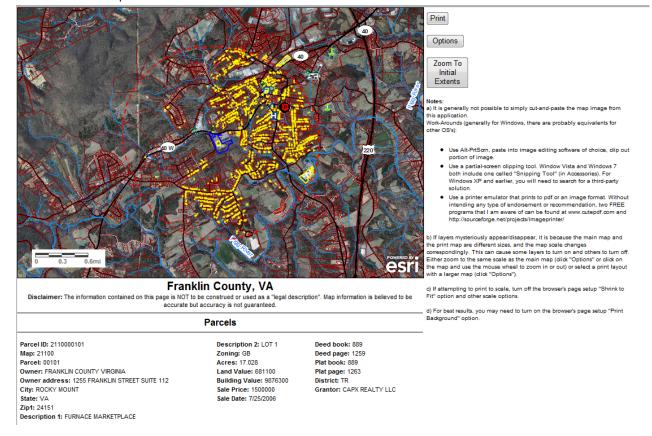


• A red dashed line appears on the screen, indicated the buffer around the feature. Highlighted features, selected because they are within the buffer, appear in yellow. *Note: to see the buffer, you may have to zoom out.*

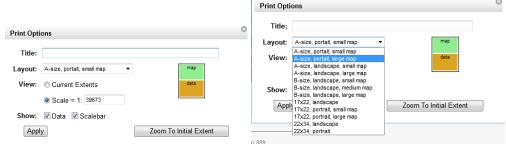


Printing a Map

- Choose the print button in the right top corner of the map screen.
- A new tab opens with a printer-friendly image of the map and information about the feature you selected shown underneath the map.



• If you click the "Options" button, many options appear for changing the appearance of your printed map. You may add a title, change the size of the map, change the scale, and add or remove a scale bar. Checking the box next to "Data" lets you choose whether to display the attributes of the features in the map.



- Note that there's no way to save the image of the map to a file. You can use the print screen function, however, to copy the image on the screen and paste it into a file. Press CONTROL+ALT+PRINT SCREEN to do so. Then when you are in Microsoft Word or Paint, you can paste the image you have selected into your document.
- If you have a newer version of Microsoft Windows, you can use the snipping tool to copy and paste images from the screen.

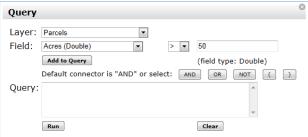
Advanced Querying

The advanced querying option lets you search the data layers based on their attributes. Attributes is the GIS word for the data associated with a geographic feature, the data about that feature. In ArcGIS this information is stored in a table which is associated with the visual layer. Advanced querying lets you search this information.

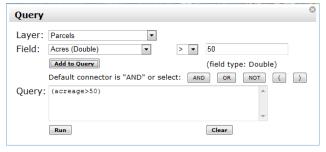
Click "Other Searches" and "Advanced Query..." in the search tab.



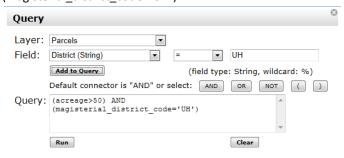
- Select the layer from which you want to search.
- o Create a search term using the field you are interested in.
- o For example, "Select all parcels with acreage greater than 50" would be
 - Layer: Parcels
 - Field: Acres (Double) > 50



- Then press the "Add to Query" button. The search string now appears in the query:
 - o (acreage>50)



You can continue to add search strings to refine your search. For example, if you want to narrow your search of parcels
greater than 50 acres to parcels in the Union Hall District, press the "AND" button and add the search string District = UH
(magisterial_district_code='UH').



- o Press "Run" to perform the search and return the results in a list.
- o Note: Being familiar with the attribute fields of layers helps you know how to enter the search terms.

Drawing and Measuring Tools

• The drawing tools allow you to draw graphics on your map. These may be useful if you're preparing a map for someone and want to highlight certain features.



- The measure tools allow you to measure a distance or area you draw on the map.
- You can also select features within a buffered distance of the measurements using the "Select Features by Buffer" button. The selection then appears as a list in the Results pane.



Other Mapping Tools

Our map lets you jump from the current display to Bing, Google, or MapQuest.

